



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
March 23, 2007

CONTACT: Elisa Bupara
(916) 263-1044

Molly Munger Appointed to First 5 California Commission

Civil rights advocate to help lead efforts for state's children and families

Sacramento, CA – First 5 California announced today that California State Assembly Speaker Fabian Nuñez appointed Molly Munger to the First 5 California Children and Families Commission. Munger will become the fifth member of the commission, which supports a wide-range of critical services for young children and their families across California.

"Molly Munger is an accomplished civil rights advocate and legal expert who has demonstrated a strong commitment to issues affecting California's youngest children," said Hector Ramirez, commission chair. "We are proud to welcome her to the First 5 California Children and Families Commission where she will no doubt prove to be a great asset and a compassionate advocate for the state's children and families."

Munger is a public education policy expert and has an extensive legal background including 25 years in litigation. She is co-founder and partner in the Los Angeles civil rights law firm English, Munger & Rice. She is also a co-founder and director of The Advancement Project, a national organization founded in 1998 that works with local communities on issues of equity and access, especially for low-income children.

Previously, Munger served as Western Regional Counsel for the NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund. Between 1974 and 1994, she served as an Assistant United States Attorney, a partner in the all-women litigation firm Baird, Munger & Meyers, and a partner in the Los Angeles office of New York-based Fried, Frank, Harris, Shriver & Jacobson.

She serves on the boards of Children Now, the James Irvine Foundation and Occidental College, and is a member of the K-12 Advisory Committee of the Rand Corporation. Munger has been president of the Federal Bar Association's Los Angeles chapter and chair of the Federal Courts Committee of the Los Angeles County Bar Association.

She received the ACLU of Southern California's Equal Justice Advocacy Award in 2002 and the Women Lawyers Association of Los Angeles' Ernestine Stahlhut Award in 1996.

Munger is a graduate of Harvard College and Harvard Law School. A California native and resident of Los Angeles, she is married to Stephen English and has two children.

About First 5 California

First 5 California, also known as the California Children and Families Commission, was established after voters passed Proposition 10 in November 1998, adding a 50 cents-per-pack tax on cigarettes to fund education, health, childcare and other programs for expectant parents and children up to age 5. For more information please visit <http://www.ccfc.ca.gov>.

###